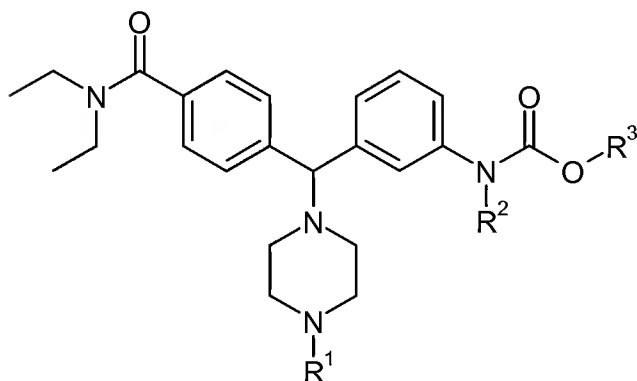


In the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listings of claims

1. (original) A compound of formula I, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, diastereomers, enantiomers, or mixtures thereof:



I

wherein

R¹ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkyl;

R² is selected from -H, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; and

R³ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl.

2. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl-methyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl-methyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, $-CF_3$, C_{1-6} alkoxy, chloro, fluoro and bromo;

R^2 is selected from $-H$ and C_{1-3} alkyl; and

R^3 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl.

3. (original) A compound according to claim 2,
 wherein R^1 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl-methyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl-methyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from methoxy, ethoxy and isopropoxy;
 R^2 is selected from $-H$; and
 R^3 is selected from methyl, ethyl, propyl and isopropyl.

4. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein
 R^1 is selected from n-propyl, cyclopropylmethyl, n-pentyl, 2-methoxyethyl, n-butyl, 2-isopropoxyethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, 3-methoxypropyl, cyclobutylmethyl, methyl, and ethyl;
 R^2 is selected from $-H$; and
 R^3 is selected from methyl and ethyl.

5. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:
 Compound 1: methyl 3-((S)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-methoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenyl)carbamate;
 Compound 2: methyl 3-((S)-{4-butylpiperazin-1-yl}{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenyl)carbamate;
 Compound 3: methyl 3-[(S)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-pentylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenyl]carbamate;
 Compound 4: methyl 3-[(S)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenyl]carbamate;
 Compound 5: methyl 3-((S)-{4-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl}{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenyl)carbamate;
 Compound 6: methyl 3-((S)-{4-(cyclobutylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl}{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenyl)carbamate;
 Compound 7: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-methoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenyl)carbamate;
 Compound 8: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-ethoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 9: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(3-methoxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 10: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 11: methyl 3-((R)-(4-butylpiperazin-1-yl){4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 12: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-pentylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 13: methyl 3-((R)-[4-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 14: methyl 3-((R)-[4-(cyclobutylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 15: ethyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-methoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 16: ethyl 3-((R)-(4-butylpiperazin-1-yl){4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenylcarbamate;

Compound 17: ethyl [3-((R)-[4-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenyl]carbamate;

Compound 18: ethyl {3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenyl}carbamate;

Compound 19: ethyl {3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-ethylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenyl}carbamate;

Compound 20: ethyl {3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenyl}carbamate;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

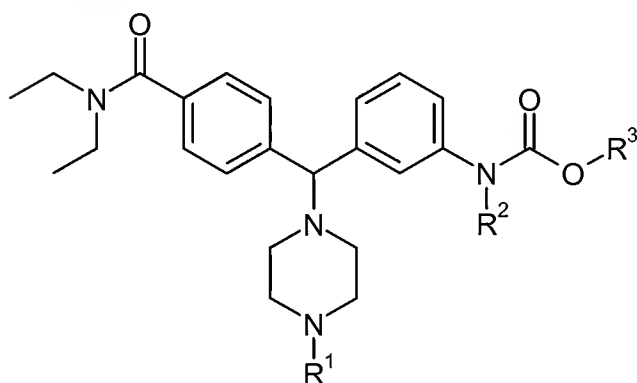
6-7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~.

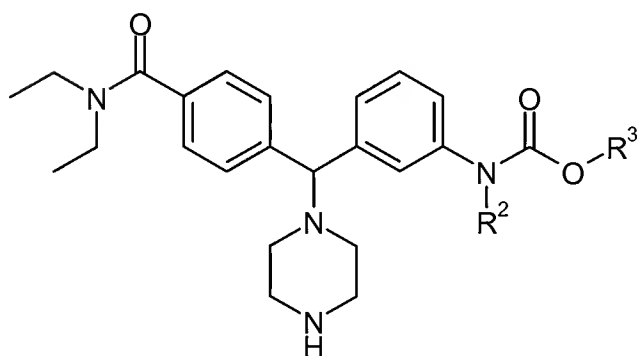
10. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of functional gastrointestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1-5.

11. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I, comprising:



I

reacting a compound of formula II with R^1 -X:



II

wherein X is a halogen;

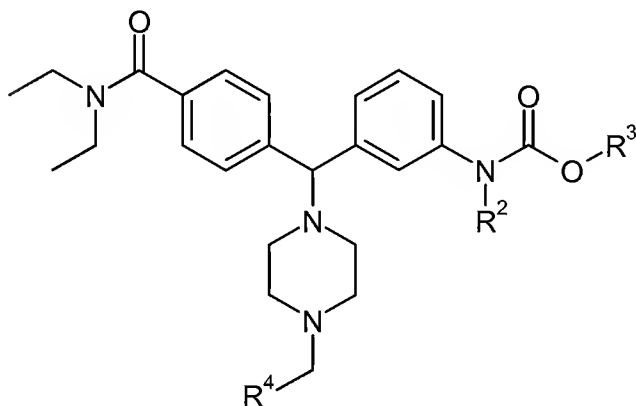
R^1 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^2 is selected from -H, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN,

-OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; and

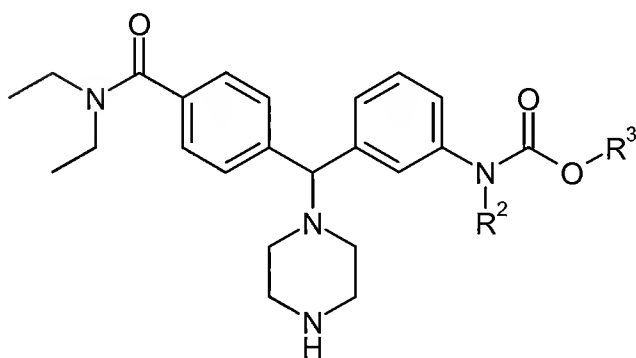
R³ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl.

12. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula III, comprising:



III

reacting a compound of formula II with R⁴-CHO:



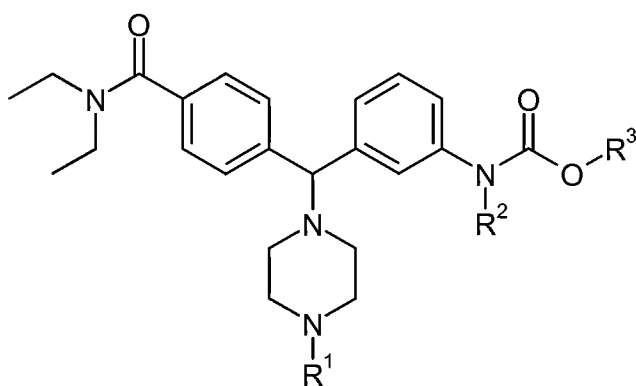
II

wherein R⁴ is selected from -H, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl and C₃₋₆cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl;

R^2 is selected from -H, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR₂, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

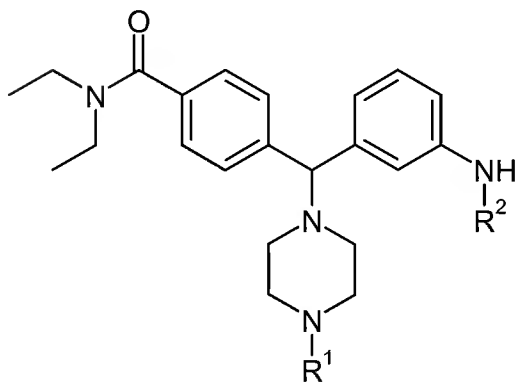
R^3 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, halogenated C_{1-6} alkyl, -CF₃, C_{1-6} alkoxy, chloro, fluoro and bromo.

13. (original) A process of preparing a compound of formula I, comprising:



I

reacting a compound of formula IV with $R^3-O-C(=O)-X$:



IV

wherein X is a halogen;

R^1 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO₂, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF₃, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH₂, -SH, -NHR, -NR₂, -SR, -SO₃H, -SO₂R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH,

$-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OR}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NR}_2$, $-\text{NRC}(=\text{O})\text{R}$, and $-\text{NRC}(=\text{O})-\text{OR}$, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^2 is selected from $-\text{H}$, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from $-\text{OR}$, $-\text{Cl}$, $-\text{Br}$, $-\text{I}$, $-\text{F}$, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OH}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{SH}$, $-\text{NHR}$, $-\text{NR}_2$, $-\text{SR}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}$, $-\text{S}(=\text{O})\text{R}$, $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OR}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NR}_2$, $-\text{NRC}(=\text{O})\text{R}$, and $-\text{NRC}(=\text{O})-\text{OR}$, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

R^3 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from $-\text{OR}$, $-\text{Cl}$, $-\text{Br}$, $-\text{I}$, $-\text{F}$, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{R}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OH}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{SH}$, $-\text{NHR}$, $-\text{NR}_2$, $-\text{SR}$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}$, $-\text{S}(=\text{O})\text{R}$, $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OR}$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NR}_2$, $-\text{NRC}(=\text{O})\text{R}$, and $-\text{NRC}(=\text{O})-\text{OR}$, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

14. (original) A compound selected from:

ethyl 3-[(R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]phenylcarbamate;
isobutyl 3-[(R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]phenylcarbamate;
enantiomers thereof; pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and mixtures thereof.

15. (new) A method for the therapy of anxiety in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.